

**BEFORE THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE
OF THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

IO(25)21

AND

PAUL ERNEST (01-10111)

PRIVATE HEARING

NOTICE OF FIRST REVIEW OF AN INTERIM ORDER

Take notice that a hearing to review an interim suspension order made on 08 December 2025 in respect of the above registered optometrist will be made before the Fitness to Practise Committee of the General Optical Council at a private hearing.

Hearing on the papers

A first review of the Interim Order will take place on the papers between **Monday 04 May 2026 and Monday 18 May 2026**. The registrant will **not** be invited to attend.

Live Hearing

If the Registrant objects to the case being heard on the papers it will be heard at a live hearing. The following will apply:

A first review of the Interim Order will therefore be held on **Monday 18 May 2026 at 09.30am** and will take place by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

Committee Members:	Gerry Wareham (Chair/Lay) Lisa Hill (Lay) Louise Gow (Optometrist)
Legal Adviser:	Kelly Thomas
Hearings Officer:	TBC
Transcribers:	Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact hearings@optical.org

Taz Chisango
Operations Manager, Hearings, General Optical Council.

09 April 2026